

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HELLENIC ASSOCIATION KRIKOS ON THE OCCASION OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX NEW YEAR

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Hellenic organization Krikos. Founded in 1974 to preserve and enrich Hellenic heritage and culture, Krikos and its members are dedicated to fostering and promoting co-operation and fellowship among Hellenes and phil-Hellenes throughout the world.

In its ongoing effort to increase the understanding of issues affecting people of Greek descent and a greater appreciation of Hellenic culture, Krikos has organized more than 50 conferences throughout the world, frequently publishing reports of their proceedings. Among the subjects examined at various conferences were topics including the growing impact of globalism, biotechnology, telecommunications, the Greek response to military conflicts in the Balkans, domestic political and cultural issues, Hellenic and Hellenic-American contributions to the art land culture of the United States, and thought-provoking issues in Hellenic and American culture.

Krikos has provided guidance to college and college-bound Hellenic youth in the United States and elsewhere in the world. Additionally, Krikos has made it possible for students to visit abroad through a world-study program. In keeping with this dedication to scholarship and education, Krikos donated 5,000 books to the Polytechnic University in Athens.

Krikos was instrumental in documenting the artistic and historic treasures located in the Saint Catherine Monastery on Mount Sinai. For hundreds of years St. Catherine's has been a prime destination for pilgrims to the Holy Land. Krikos and its dedicated members helped facilitate this sacred monument's ability to serve its vital mission in the modern world by computerizing its properties and their operations. In the past many prominent Hellenes and phil-Hellenes have been honored by Krikos and spoken at various symposiums, conferences and testimonial events.

This exemplary organization is now headed by Denise Constantopoulou, President, and John Belleas, past President. Under their able leadership, Krikos continues to make significant and enduring contributions to Hellenic and world culture and civilization.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the tremendous contributions to the civic and cultural life of our Nation and our world by Krikos and its members.

HONORING MRS. MARY EDITH BROWN COLEMAN ON HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and honor that I congratulate Mrs. Mary Edith Brown Coleman on a momentous milestone, her 90th birthday, which will be on February 13, 2007. Edith will be celebrating this milestone with family and friends on Saturday, February 10, 2007, at her home in Schererville, Indiana. Throughout the past 67 years, Edith's presence in Northwest Indiana has allowed her the opportunity to touch the lives of countless people.

Edith Brown was born on February 13, 1917 in Muskogee, Oklahoma. She was one of four children born to Luther Albert Brown and Dora Rozolia Draper Brown. Having gone on to live in Kansas City, Kansas and Chicago, Illinois, Edith finally relocated to Gary, Indiana in 1940. Quite the accomplished student, Edith completed her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in education at Indiana University in Bloomington. From there, she decided to go into the teaching profession. As a teacher at Frederick Douglass Elementary School in Gary for over 27 years, Edith was able to enrich the lives of so many young people in the Gary community. For her commitment to the youth of Northwest Indiana, she is worthy of the highest praise.

Equally as impressive, Edith has always been seen as the foundation of her family. She and her husband, the late William Henry Coleman, were blessed with the births of two wonderful children: Norma Louise Coleman and Merle Jean Coleman. Edith's family, as well as those whose lives she has touched, admire her for devoting unselfish love, time, dedication, guidance, and spirit to her family, her students, and her friends.

As well as being dearly loved and respected by her family, her students, and her community, Edith is also well known for her involvement with her church, the First Church of God in Gary, and several other organizations. For years, Edith has been a distinguished member of the American Association of University Women, the Women's Association of the Northwest Indiana Symphony Society, the Red Hat Society, and the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority. Since her arrival in Northwest Indiana, Edith has always been known as a good-hearted woman who is always willing to help the people in her community. For her selflessness, she is to be commended and admired.

Madam Speaker, Mary Edith Brown Coleman has always given her time and efforts selflessly to the youth and the community in Northwest Indiana throughout her illustrious life. She has taught every member of her family and extended family the true meaning of service to others. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in wishing Edith a very happy 90th birthday.

A CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF DOWNEY ON THE OCCASION OF THE CITY'S 50TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

### HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the city of Downey and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating its residents on the city's recent 50th anniversary. I am honored to represent this unique and proud city as part of my 34th Congressional District of California.

Although we celebrate 50 years since the city's official incorporation, the history of Downey begins in the late 1700s when Spanish missionaries settled along the California coast. In 1784, former soldier Juan Nietos was granted provisional use of 300,000 acres of ranch land and, after his death, the portion of the land lying between the San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Rivers was carved out and named Rancho San Gertrudes. In 1873, a 96-acre parcel of the Rancho became the central district of a community called Downey City. The town was named after John Gately Downey, an Irish immigrant who journeyed to California during the Gold Rush and later became governor of the State.

The development of Downey City began slowly. A tract map from 1873 shows a town consisting of only 16 blocks with 10 acres for a railroad station. However, the small city prospered, soon becoming a commercial center for agricultural products and poultry raising. It was that agricultural industry that made it possible for Downey to sustain itself during the Depression.

By the early 20th century, Downey had become a haven for business, entering an era that became known as the city's "golden age." Downey's "dare devil" era brought the aviation industry to the city, and the Downey Board of Trade, known today as the Downey Chamber of Commerce, was founded.

The 1940s and '50s brought a population boom to Downey, growing from 12,000 residents in 1940 to over 86,000 residents by 1956. With its significant increase in population, Downey's leaders moved to incorporate, and on December 4, 1956, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the incorporation of the city. The new City Council, under the leadership of the city's first mayor, James L. Stamps, were trailblazers, paving the way for the city's resounding future success.

Today, Downey boasts its "Future Unlimited" slogan and is a prosperous city that has managed to maintain its small town atmosphere. The city's residents and visitors can enjoy a wide range of activities—from great shopping to parks and museums; from golf courses to the Symphony Orchestra or the model City Library. Downey is where the Apollo Space program began its journey to the stars, and

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

where you can find the world's oldest McDonald's and the site of the first Taco Bell eatery.

Fifty years since its incorporation in 1956, Downey has grown to a population of over 110,000 residents. The city serves as a hub for business, with California Business Magazine recently rating Downey in the top 25 percent of "100 Cities To Do Business In." Downey has made many outstanding contributions to the region, and was a leader in the founding of the Gateway Cities Council of Governments. This partnership, comprised of 27 cities in Southeast Los Angeles County, effectively works to address the region's challenges, particularly with respect to transportation planning and economic development.

The city of Downey recently hosted a fun-filled 50th anniversary celebration for its residents. The "Birthday Bash," which featured tunes honoring its hometown singing duo "The Carpenters," marked another milestone in the rich history of this city that I am so proud to represent. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Downey's first 50 years as this prosperous city looks toward its "Future Unlimited."

IN RECOGNITION OF LITTLE MISSIONARY'S DAY NURSERY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS THIRD ANNUAL SARA CURRY BENEFIT AWARDS

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Little Missionary's Day Nursery, the oldest continuously operating non-sectarian school in New York City. Founded in 1896 by Miss Sara Curry, the Little Missionary's Day Nursery is dedicated to providing affordable day care in a warm, nurturing environment in which children of diverse socioeconomic, ethnic and religious backgrounds are encouraged to take their first steps in embracing lives inspired by the values of a sound and well-rounded education and a spirit of sharing and caring.

The Little Missionary's Day Nursery has remained true to the progressive dream of its visionary founder, Sara Curry, a remarkable, energetic, and accomplished woman who dedicated her life to improving conditions for the underprivileged children and families of Manhattan's Lower East Side. Then, as now, "Loisaida" was a haven for immigrants from all over the world, many enduring conditions of severe deprivation and adversity. Practically a century ahead of her time, Sara Curry grasped the need for many mothers to secure quality, affordable day care in order to enter and stay in the work force to support their economically struggling families. In fighting narrow-minded contemporary strictures against working women that were then prevalent, Sara Curry—and the Day Nurseries that she founded—helped provide an engine of opportunity that allowed countless families to lift themselves out of poverty while inculcating values of learning and compassion in their children.

In recognition of her indefatigable and effective stewardship of the institution, Miss Curry was lovingly dubbed the "little missionary" by grateful parents and supporters. And, to honor

her more than four decades of compassionate and visionary stewardship, the institution was renamed the Little Missionary's Day Nursery in her honor. In 1901, the nursery purchased its own building at 93 St. Mark's Place, which has remained its home ever since. Today, under the capable leadership of Director Eileen Johnson and Board President Herman Hewitt, the Little Missionary's Day Nursery continues to serve the families of the Lower East Side, dedicating a portion of its income to providing generous tuition assistance.

This year, the Little Missionary's Day Nursery is honoring three outstanding individuals at its third annual Sara Curry Awards Benefit. The honorees include the renowned Gloria Steinem, the inspirational writer, lecturer, editor, and women's activist who has become an international symbol of the struggle for women's equality and dignity. An equally deserving honoree of the nursery this year is the dedicated public servant, the Honorable Margarita Lopez, a champion of the Lower East Side and its historic progressive values, who represented this incredibly diverse and exciting neighborhood with distinction for two terms on the New York City Council before assuming a position of citywide leadership as a member of the Board of the New York City Housing Authority. The third honoree is Ms. Margarite Malfy, the remarkably accomplished chef and restaurateur. In addition to her accomplishments as an artist and as the co-owner and co-executive chef of La Palapa Cocina Mexicana, Ms. Malfy has dedicated her prodigious energies to many worthwhile causes that benefit the people of the Lower East Side, and indeed around the world, including human rights and children's organizations such as Art/NY, the Nepalese Children's Home in Nepal, and, of course, the Little Missionary's Day Nursery.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Little Missionary's Day Nursery and its three remarkable honorees this year as well as the tremendous contributions this outstanding educational and child care facility and its graduates have made to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO THE BACHAN FAMILY

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and respect that I wish to commend one of Northwest Indiana's finest families for their bravery in the field of battle and their willingness to fight for their country. The history of the Bachan family of East Chicago, Indiana, and their commitment and service to the United States of America, is a true source of pride in Northwest Indiana. The Bachans represent a great model of unwavering patriotism.

Natives of East Chicago, these local heroes served and were stationed in many locations, including Korea, Germany, and Vietnam. For a single family to offer so much in defense of our freedom, they are to be commended with the highest praise and admiration. The men I stand to honor today are: Paul Bachan, Milan Bacan, Richard Bacan, Michael Bacan, the late Joseph Bachan, Daniel Bachan, Robert

Bachan, and Steven Darryl Mihailovich, as well as their brothers-in-law, Donald Knieriemen, a veteran of the United States Navy, and the late Henry Butch Haluska, a veteran of the United States Air Force.

To further demonstrate their desire to serve their country, two of these men, Joseph and Robert Bachan, chose to make careers of their service. Joseph served his entire military career in the United States Army, the branch where all of the brothers served, while Robert split his time serving both in the United States Army and the United States Navy.

It came as no surprise to those who knew the Bachan boys that these men would make the decision to serve their country. These men grew up together in East Chicago and always felt tremendous pride for their country, knowing all too well the dangers that would exist if they chose to enlist. Undeterred, they would go on to serve their country with selfless sacrifice and bravery. Their courage and heroism will always be remembered, and their sacrifice, along with the sacrifice of all of our veterans, lives on in the hearts and minds of all Americans. Surely, it is through the service of brave citizens like the Bachan brothers that we can enjoy the freedoms and values we so dearly treasure today.

Madam Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring these fine individuals. Let us never forget their service and the sacrifices they made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy. I can say with certainty that Northwest Indiana is proud to be the home of the Bachan family.

HONORING THE 36-YEAR SERVICE OF FRANK BARNES TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Frank Barnes, a long-time House Armed Services Committee employee, on his retirement from the U.S. House of Representatives after 36 years of exemplary and professional service.

Frank began his congressional career by joining the Office of the Speaker and Parliamentarian in 1972. Already then, Madam Speaker, were Frank's trademark traits—professionalism, dedication, loyalty, and kindness of spirit—in evidence. In fact, in a letter commending him for his service, Speaker Carl Albert wrote to Frank the following:

"Your ability to deal directly with the Members of the House and their staffs when the occasion arose was outstanding. This sets your job above most of those in other offices around the Capitol, and your performance in this regard has brought credit to yourself and to the Office of the Speaker and Parliamentarian. But beyond your ability to do a great job, I want to thank you for the manner in which you did it. You were always courteous, thoughtful and helpful. No task ever proved too difficult, and you consistently seemed to do more than what was asked."

Since March 5, 1979, the House Armed Services Committee has been fortunate to benefit from his abilities and skills. Serving six

committee chairmen, Frank's contributions ensured the smooth operation of committee business, under frequently demanding hearing and mark-up schedules, and helped facilitate the annual defense authorization process. His dedication was such that even after suffering a stroke last year before markup, Frank chided his doctor for not allowing him to leave the hospital and go to work.

Madam Speaker, too often public perception of Congress is colored by the actions of a few powerful or well-known figures. However, as one who shares Frank's long tenure on Capitol Hill, I know that Congress relies on the dedicated staff who steadfastly complete their work in the shadow of the dome and in the shadow of the limelight. Frank has tenaciously labored on behalf of our men and women in uniform as well as each of us in this Chamber and his absence will be felt by all who have had the privilege of working with him.

Simply stated, Frank leaves a legacy that is both remarkable and unsurpassable.

On behalf of all of the members of the House Armed Services Committee and his colleagues on the HASC staff, I congratulate Frank on his retirement and thank him for his exemplary public service. With deep appreciation, we extend to Frank, his wife Ann, his sons Frank Jr. and Glenn and their families every best wish for health and happiness in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF DIRK MCCALL  
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS BEING  
HONORED BY THE QUEENS LES-  
BIAN & GAY PRIDE COMMITTEE

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Dirk McCall, an outstanding New Yorker who has devoted himself to public service and to his community, his city, and his country throughout his career. Dirk McCall is a beloved and well-respected leader of New York City's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans gender, LGBT, community, the largest of any city in our Nation, and a determined, effective, and compassionate professional advocate for persons with autism. This month, Dirk McCall and our esteemed and distinguished colleague, the Honorable BARNEY FRANK of Massachusetts, are being honored by the Queens Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee at its annual Winterpride celebration in Astoria, New York.

A proud son of a military family, Dirk McCall grew up on a series of military bases throughout the southern United States. Following his dream of making his mark in the Big Apple, he made his home in Astoria in the Borough of Queens after his graduation from Emory University in Atlanta. For the last 13 years, he has devoted his prodigious energies in service to his neighborhood, to his fellow members of New York's LGBT community, and to the service of those in need.

As the president of the Stonewall Democratic Club of New York City, the largest LGBT political club in the Nation's greatest metropolis, Dirk McCall presided over a period of enormous growth in that organization's membership and its influence over key policy-makers

on the city, State, and Federal levels. An indefatigable activist, he also co-founded Out Astoria, a social organization for northwest Queens' rapidly growing LGBT community. He also founded and led the LGBT Caucus of New York State Young Democrats.

CONGRATULATING THE STAFF OF  
WAPAKONETA MANOR

### HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I take great pride in recognizing the staff of Wapakoneta Manor, a skilled nursing facility in my congressional district. Wapakoneta Manor was one of only 11 facilities among the nearly 1,000 nursing homes in Ohio to be designated "deficiency-free" by the Ohio Department of Health in 2006.

Wapakoneta Manor has been serving the senior citizens of the Wapakoneta area for nearly four decades. This 97-bed facility excels in a wide variety of assistance and rehabilitation areas, including physical, occupational, and speech therapy.

When you consider that nursing homes may be cited for any number of minor violations during health and safety inspections, Wapakoneta Manor's deficiency-free rating is even more impressive. Such outstanding performance is the norm for the facility's staff, which has received citation-free evaluations in four of the last five survey periods.

A record like that, Madam Speaker, is not compiled through happenstance. It requires staff members who know the value of teamwork, who care about residents and their families, and who give their all to maintain a top-quality facility to best serve the senior population of the Wapakoneta region.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Ohio, I congratulate the skilled professional staff of Wapakoneta Manor on this exceptional achievement. The people of Wapakoneta and Auglaize County can take great pride in this remarkable record of service.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the record my position on the following votes I missed due to reasons beyond my control.

On Monday January 29, 2007 I had to tend to some family matters and thus missed roll-call votes Nos. 58, 59, and 60. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all votes.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILHELMINA  
COLE HOLLADAY ON RECEIVING  
THE NATIONAL ARTS CLUB'S  
GOLD MEDAL OF HONOR

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Wilhelmina Cole Holladay, a great American who has devoted her life to promoting the development and appreciation of great women artists. In November of 1981, Wilhelmina Cole Holladay founded the National Museum of Women in the Arts in our Nation's Capital. In the ensuing quarter century, the Museum has enlightened countless members of the public about the remarkable achievements of women artists throughout history by acquiring, preserving and exhibiting great works of art by women. This month, Wilhelmina Cole Holladay is receiving the Gold Medal of Honor from the National Arts Club of New York City in recognition of her remarkable, visionary leadership and her tremendous contributions to the arts.

In the 1960s, in concert with her husband Wallace, Wilhelmina Cole Holladay began carefully assembling a unique and invaluable collection of significant works of art by women, whose tremendous creative contributions to the fine arts had historically been grievously underappreciated and often overlooked altogether. The Holladay Collection constituted the core of the offerings of the National Museum of Women in the Arts when it was founded in 1981, and the basis of its permanent collection.

To fulfill its mission of increasing exposure to and appreciation of great art by women, the National Museum of Women in the Arts cares for and displays this magnificent permanent collection, offers special exhibitions, conducts outreach and education programs, maintains a research center and library, produces periodicals and books on women artists, and provides support to artists and fine arts groups around the globe. The Museum also offers a home in the capital area to those devoted to the appreciation of the performing and literary arts and other creative disciplines.

During the first 5 years of its existence, the National Museum of Women in the Arts operated from temporary offices, with docents conducting tours of its collection and special exhibitions at the Holladays' own residence. Two decades ago, the Museum opened its permanent home in a 78,810-square-foot Washington landmark located by the White House, previously a Masonic Temple. The Museum's handsome building was refurbished to meet the most demanding design, museum, and security standards, and has since earned several architectural awards.

Wilhelmina Cole Holladay's significant and enduring contribution to American art and culture are very appropriately being recognized this month by the National Arts Club, an institution dedicated to stimulating, fostering and promoting public interest in the fine arts since its founding in 1898. Located in the architectural gem of the Samuel Tilden Mansion on Manhattan's picturesque Gramercy Park, the National Arts Club is a designated New York and National Historic Landmark and a pillar of the culture and artistic heritage of the United States of America.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me recognizing the enormous contributions to the civic and cultural life of our Nation by Wilhelmina Cole Holladay, founder of the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

#### ENCOURAGE CITIZENS TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR LOCAL BLOOD DRIVE

### HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, the renowned author William Shakespeare once wrote, "How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a weary world."

It is in that spirit of brotherly love that I come before this House to address an issue of great urgency back in my south-central Michigan district.

According to a January 28, 2007 article in the Lansing State Journal, Michigan's statewide blood inventory levels "have remained below an adequate supply for all negative blood types since early January."

The article goes on to state that a 72-hour supply of blood is typically necessary for the needs of patients in Michigan's 127 hospitals, but the inventory level of certain blood types in Michigan has dropped to just a 12- to 24-hour supply.

This past weekend I had the opportunity to participate in the St. Gerard Blood Drive held in Delta Township in Michigan's Eaton County. While I confess I have never been a fan of needles, the feeling of civic duty experienced by myself and all the donors that day far outweighed any temporary pain we may have felt as a result of a needle.

It's said that a faithful friend is the medicine of life, and I urge my fellow Michiganders and Americans across this great country to heed the call of organizations like the Red Cross and make an appointment at your local blood donation center.

#### HONORING ORTHODONTISTS

### HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Orthodontists everywhere by introducing a Resolution to establish a National Orthodontic Health Month. Since the early 1900s, the specialty of orthodontics has been a growing part of our Nation's dental health system. This resolution expresses the sense of Congress that U.S. citizens should observe a National Orthodontic Health Month to recognize the advancing art and science of orthodontics. In addition, this Resolution aims to encourage Americans to learn more about the benefit of quality orthodontic care.

Over 5 million citizens of all ages are currently undergoing orthodontic treatment. An attractive smile contributes to self-esteem and self-image, improving a person's self-confidence and contributing to both social and career success. An attractive smile simply

makes people more comfortable and more willing to open up to the world around them.

I have been impressed by the impact that orthodontists have not only on their patients, but also the communities in which they serve. Orthodontists are truly dental specialists, undergoing years of training to learn how to safely and effectively correct misaligned jaws and teeth. In addition, orthodontists donate over 62 million dollars worth of pro-bono dental services each year.

The American Association of Orthodontists is the leading voice for orthodontists in this country. The organization represents almost 95 percent of American orthodontists and is dedicated to maintaining the high quality of orthodontic care and promoting advances in orthodontic treatment and technology. I am proud that the American Association of Orthodontists is headquartered within my district in St. Louis, Missouri and I wholeheartedly support efforts to publicize the benefits of orthodontic treatment and the practice of orthodontics.

Madam Speaker, it is with great privilege that I recognize orthodontists today before Congress and I urge my colleagues to join me in working to establish a National Orthodontic Health Month. I myself can attest to the positive benefits of orthodontic care, as I have become one of the millions of adults who use braces to improve my oral health. By establishing a National Orthodontic Health Month we are taking a big first step towards educating people about the importance of orthodontic care as part of their overall oral health.

#### "DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR THE INDEFENSIBLE"

### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, earlier this session I inserted into the RECORD a cogent editorial from the Boston Globe calling for the dismissal of Deputy Assistant Secretary Charles Stimson, who outrageously urged corporations in America to boycott attorneys who performed their duty as lawyers in defending people accused of violating the law who were incarcerated in Guantanamo. While Mr. Stimson has since been forced to apologize, the apology was an entirely unconvincing one, in which he claimed not to have meant what he clearly said. A recent article in The Washington Post by the very able writer Richard Cohen correctly questions the apology, makes clear once again how wildly outrageous Mr. Stimson's comments were, and concludes correctly that "his words show that he is unfit for government service. . . ." I ask that Mr. Cohen's thoughtful column be printed here because it is our responsibility as elected officials to continue to protest Mr. Stimson's presence in our Government, particularly in a position where he should be advocating policies exactly the opposite of his call for the boycott of conscientious and courageous attorneys.

DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR THE INDEFENSIBLE

(By Richard Cohen)

"On the cold moonlit evening of March 5, 1770," writes David McCullough in his mag-

isterial "John Adams," "the streets of Boston were covered by nearly a foot of snow." A crowd set upon a lone British sentry at Boston's Province House, taunting him. Quickly, reinforcements arrived, and so did a larger crowd. Soon the crowd hurled snowballs, chunks of ice, oyster shells and stones. The soldiers, now nine, opened fire, killing five Bostonians—"bloody butchery," Samuel Adams called it. Only one lawyer would defend the British soldiers. He was a different Adams—John Adams, a good man on the path to being great.

I resurrect this tale about Adams because it is sorely needed. Just this month, an official in the Bush administration, a deputy assistant secretary of defense named Charles D. Stimson, suggested that lawyers who defend terrorism suspects being held at Guantanamo not only should not do so but that their firms ought to be blackballed as a result.

"I think, quite honestly, when corporate CEOs see that those firms are representing the very terrorists who hit their bottom line back in 2001, those CEOs are going to make those law firms choose between representing terrorists or representing reputable firms," he said in a radio interview. You may want to read that again.

It's hard to know where to begin. Shall it be with the notion that the Sept. 11 terrorists did not so much murder about 3,000 people as hit the "bottom line" of American corporations? This is a stunningly original take on that awful day, an auditor's reading of history that Stimson, in the spare time he deserves to have in abundance, might want to apply to the bombing of Pearl Harbor or the burning of Atlanta. I doubt that any CEO look at Sept. 11 as a bad day at the office.

More to the point, what sort of lawyer— and Stimson is one—not only thinks that a terrorism suspect does not deserve counsel but that the counsel ought to be punished as a result? It's hard to fathom a lawyer saying such a thing—even hard to fathom it from a mere citizen.

It would be just a waste of my time, I suppose, to point out that the Guantanamo suspects are just suspects, convicted so far of nothing. In fact, some of them have been released and others, arrested and held elsewhere, turned out to not be the mass murderers and master criminals the government, in a fit of hype, originally accused them of being. Anyone who thinks all prosecutors speak nothing but the truth need only familiarize themselves with the case of the lacrosse players at Duke. There's a sad lesson in American jurisprudence for you.

Naturally enough, Stimson's repudiation of everything John Adams stood for produced some protest, condemnation and outrage. Following the well-established Washington rule, Stimson apologized, doing so in a letter to The Post. He said his remarks did not reflect his "core beliefs." He did not blame his utterance on drugs, booze, Twinkies or a deep depression; he merely said that his words had left the wrong "impression." With that, he has returned to the obscurity from whence he came, his job presumably secure.

I, for one, do not accept Stimson's apology. I think it is insincerely offered and beside the point. What matters most is that he retains his job, which means he retains the confidence of his superiors in the government. How anyone can have confidence in such a man is beyond me. There are only two explanations, one inexcusable, the other chilling. The first is that his bosses don't care. The second is that they agree with him.

I would guess that Stimson strongly felt it was No. 2—agreement. From the get-go, the Bush administration has taken the position that anyone it detained on terrorism charges

was guilty. Throw away the key. No need for lawyers. No need for judges. No need for anything except, of course, the word of the authorities. In recent months, a more assertive Congress and the courts have unaccountably challenged this view, and the Bush administration has beaten a tactical retreat on unchecked eavesdropping and the legality of trying alleged terrorists before military commissions. Still, we all know where its heart is on these matters. Justice is what the administration says it is.

By now, any other administration would have fired Stimson, apology or not. His words show that he is unfit for government service, not to mention membership in the bar. Fortunately for him, if and when someone does drop the ax, some misguided lawyer, infused with the spirit of John Adams, will defend him. I hope Stimson will forgive him.

#### LANE EVANS POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 521, which will designate a "Lane Evans Post Office Building" in Rock Island, Illinois.

For more than 20 years, Lane was a champion of veterans and Parkinson's issues on Capitol Hill and a great friend to both communities. We worked together as co-chairs of the Congressional Working Group on Parkinson's Disease, and I came to truly admire his dedication, kindness, and courage.

Last year Lane helped to pass into law a program that he conceived and created, Parkinson's Disease Research, Education and Clinical Centers, PADRECCs. These centers will provide valuable assistance to American veterans battling Parkinson's disease.

As a former Marine, Ranking Member on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, and person battling Parkinson's Disease, Lane Evans knows better than most the challenges facing both constituencies. While his presence in this chamber is sorely missed, I hope to continue his legacy while working with the newly renamed Bicameral Congressional Caucus on Parkinson's Disease to find a cure for this terrible disease.

I am truly proud to have served with my dear friend Lane and to support this fitting tribute to him.

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON: AN AMERICA'S PROMISE "100 BEST COMMUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE"

#### HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Spokane, Washington, and the efforts of the Spokane Regional Youth Department for being named an America's Promise "100 Best Communities for Young People."

Spokane is committed to youth service and leadership opportunities. When nominating Spokane for the America's Promise award, Matthew Rivera, a 17-year-old student leader, said, "Spokane provides us with the tools and inspiration to pursue our goals."

Spokane is a city of promise because of people like Matthew, who are partnering with caring adults to serve our community. He, along with many other youth in the area, impact Spokane's future on a daily basis through their participation in organizations such as the Spokane Regional Youth Department, Chase Youth Commission and the Teen Advisory Council.

Devon Clark, another local high school student, says that "Spokane is fortunate to have such a great network of youth, but it is also important to see that the network of adults who support our youth is just as much an integral part of the team." That network has contributed to a low high school drop-out rate in Spokane County and a commitment to mentoring underserved populations.

Finally, Katherine Merck, a participant in Youth Leadership Spokane, said "Spokane deserves the honor of being named one of our national 100 Best Communities for Young People, because our community focuses on youth, is a safe place, has outstanding schools, and offers many opportunities for young people to become involved in the community."

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the City of Spokane for their work to develop civic participation in our young people, to provide them with an outlet to express their views, and to give the youth of Spokane the opportunity to serve their community through partnering with adult leaders in the city. I invite my colleagues to join me in celebration of Spokane, Washington, an America's Promise "100 Best Communities for Young People."

#### HONORING MRS. FISHER'S ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, the congressional district I represent is home to two of the finest home style, thick-sliced potato chips manufacturers in the country, Mrs. Fisher's and Ole Salty's. I am pleased today to honor Mrs. Fisher's on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

Mrs. Fisher's was founded in Rockford, Illinois in 1932 by Mrs. Ethel Fisher. Eugene and Ethel Fisher began cooking potato chips in their basement on a two burner wash stove in order to make extra income during the Depression. From this humble beginning, Mrs. Fisher's now ships its product throughout the entire United States and is one of oldest chip manufacturers in the Midwest.

Mrs. Fisher's is currently owned and operated by the DiVenti family, who were employees of Mrs. Fisher's at the time they purchased the company. Under the ownership of the DiVenti family, Mrs. Fisher's now employs 13 full time workers and has three shipping routes that make daily deliveries to Dixon, Rochelle, Freeport, Crystal Lake, and Janesville, Wisconsin.

Generations of individuals in northern Illinois have grown up with Mrs. Fisher's, and I commend the DiVenti family for carrying on the great Fisher's tradition.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS REASSIGNMENT PROTECTION ACT

#### HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Ms. HERSETH. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Veterans Reassignment Protection Act of 2007. This bill would ensure the application of veterans' preference protections to Federal and postal employees who are the unfortunate victims of downsizing actions that threaten to unfairly and involuntarily reassign them to locations far from their homes.

I have drafted this legislation to directly address the actions of some Federal agencies that are attempting to circumvent the application of certain employment preferences to military veterans in their ranks. These Federal entities in the course of downsizing actions, under the authority of so-called "repositioning rules," are seeking to deny the longstanding employment preference entitlements Congress has conferred upon eligible veterans in connection with reduction-in-force actions. If traditional veterans' preference rights were available, veterans would likely remain employed in comparable positions in the same geographic area when a downsizing action occurred.

Since the time of the Civil War, veterans of our Armed Forces have been given some degree of preference in hiring and other personnel actions by the Federal Government. Recognizing their sacrifice, Congress has enacted laws to prevent veterans from being penalized for their time in military service. Veterans' employment preferences recognize the economic loss and sacrifice suffered by citizens who have served their country in uniform, restore veterans to a favorable competitive position in Government employment, and acknowledge the larger obligation owed to disabled veterans.

The blatant actions of some Federal agencies to circumvent preference eligible protections in the course of downsizing actions must be ended, especially in light of legal challenges by involuntarily reassigned employees that have generally been resolved in favor of their employing agency because of a loophole in the law that requires preference eligible veterans to accept involuntary reassignment or be administratively discharged for the refusal. My legislation would close that loophole. The Veterans Reassignment Protection Act would ensure the application of veterans' preference rights to employees who are involuntarily reassigned in the course of reorganizations or transfers of function within their agency, regardless of the characterization of such personnel actions by their agency.

I introduced similar legislation late in the 109th Congress, which was endorsed by the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the National Association of Postal Supervisors, and the National Association of Postmasters of the United States. I appreciate the continued support of these groups and look forward to the added endorsements of additional veteran service organizations and others.

The rights and protections of our Nation's military veterans, especially in light of their continuing sacrifices in Iraq, Afghanistan and other dangerous lands, should not permit the unfair and wrongheaded employment policies by the Federal Government to stand. I am proud to support the selfless and patriotic sacrifice of our Nation's military veterans, and I urge the swift consideration and passage by the Congress of this necessary and important legislation.

LANE EVANS POST OFFICE  
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

**HON. STEVE BUYER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2007*

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 521, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2633 11th Street in Rock Island, Illinois, as the "Lane Evans Post Office Building."

Lane Evans completed 24 years of remarkable service to his nation as a member of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. His work here reflected the principles that guided him throughout his life. Lane's concern for our military men and women, the environment, and those less fortunate speaks to his character and commitment to make life better. But it was his unwavering support for the Nation's veterans that best defined his time in Congress. Agent Orange, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Spina Bifida, and expanded services for women veterans are just some of the causes for which Lane will be fondly remembered by his colleagues and our veterans.

I served on both the Armed Services and the Veterans' Affairs Committees with Lane, and have always respected his counsel, especially in his role as my Ranking Member when I chaired the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Even when we disagreed on policy matters, I never doubted that his positions on veterans issues were rooted in his service as a United States Marine during the Vietnam Era. Lane is a man of integrity, compassion, and honor.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 521. Naming this post office is a small, but lasting and appropriate way to honor Lane, and I hope those who visit this facility will recognize the contributions of the man for whom it is to be named.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOSS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to salute Foss Avenue Baptist Church as it celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Church's founding. The congregation will hold a banquet on March 24th in my hometown of Flint, Michigan to mark the occasion.

In late 1956 several ministers in Flint meet with the purpose of organizing a Baptist church on Foss Avenue. It was agreed to organize a church and the first applications for membership were made. The first members were Preston Johnson, Emma J. Simpson, Marvell Arkansas, and Reverend and Mrs. Avery Aldridge. A motion was made to name the church Foss Avenue Baptist Church and on December 2, 1956 the new church was born.

The original church was dedicated on January 6, 1957. Under the direction of Pastor Avery Aldridge the second church building was entered on March 30, 1958 with the cornerstone being laid on March 22, 1959. The church was rebuilt in 1964, and the west addition was dedicated on February 9, 1969. The cornerstone was re-laid on December 10, 1978 when the north and south side additions were dedicated. As the congregation grew Pastor Aldridge organized many auxiliaries and services under the auspices of Foss Avenue Baptist Church and the congregation moved into the current sanctuary in 1989. In 2005 the original sanctuary was renovated and dedicated as the Mildred Light Aldridge Christian Education Center.

Through the years the members of Foss Avenue Baptist Church have contributed to the church enterprises. Foss Avenue Baptist Church has an active Usher Board, a Music Department, a Foreign Mission Board, Church School Department, Mother's Board, Deaconess Board, a Trustee Board, Mission Department, and Kitchen Entourage. In addition the congregation operated Foss Avenue Christian School and the first Black Dairy Queen in the Flint area. Through the efforts of this congregation, thousands of persons have been helped, inspired and educated.

Pastor Aldridge devoted his life to making Foss Avenue Baptist Church a reflection of God's glory and a beacon of light to the people of Flint. Under the current leadership of Pastor Roosevelt Austin, a lifelong friend of Pastor Aldridge, the congregation continues to respond overwhelmingly to God's call and to carry on His work.

Madam Speaker, please join me in applauding Foss Avenue Baptist Church as it celebrates 50 years of worship, fellowship, and homage to Our Lord, Jesus Christ. The clergy and members are to be commended for their service to their community and world.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 718 NATIONAL GUARD EMPOWERMENT ACT OF 2007

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 718, the National Guard Empowerment Act of 2007.

The National Guard needs a voice to ensure that its people get the same training, equipment and benefits as their active-duty counterparts. It needs a voice to speak for the needs of governors and the guardsmen who defend and protect us from natural disasters and acts of terror.

Asking the Department of Defense to approve one four-star General for the National

Guard and allow this Guard General a seat at the Joint Chiefs of Staff is not overly reaching or a threat to national security. It's simply a matter of providing a seat at the table to an organization that has earned it.

When it comes to the Guard, Cold War thinking still prevails at the Pentagon. So a bipartisan and bicameral group of Members of Congress stand united behind this bill. This year, we have added three important provisions to: allow Guard officers to advance to the highest ranks of leadership; force better accountability in service procurement for the National Guard; and, define and improve the fractured planning and operational relationships between the Department of Defense, the National Guard Bureau, U.S. Northern Command and our Governors.

After 9/11, the President issued an Executive Order making the security of the homeland the No.1 priority of the Department of Defense. But the Department's attempts to empower the Guard have so far been date have been hollow, with no clear standards, no firm requirements and only minimal funding.

The Department of Defense seems to be in denial about the essential role the National Guard plays in times of need. The Pentagon needs to show more concern for the force that protects Americans first, arrives first, acts first and stays longest.

Today, the Government Accountability Office released a study sponsored by the Oversight and Government Reform Committee entitled: "Actions Needed to Identify National Guard Domestic Equipment Requirements and Readiness." This study points out that the Department of Defense has yet to take decisive action to improve the National Guard's domestic capabilities and clearly points out why this basic Guard empowerment bill is absolutely necessary.

If you want to know why the Guard deserves a seat at the table, take a look at what the Air Force has budgeted this year for First Air Force, which is made up of the nation's top Air National Guard wings. These are the fighters who protect the skies over America. Their command budget and manpower is being cut almost in half. And it should come as no surprise that these Air Guard wings are not on the Air Force list to get F-22s or F-35s.

Last year's BRAC decimated Air National Guard units that provided critical airlift capability during Hurricane Katrina, moving people, water and supplies through catastrophic damage. Without that capability, we may be in a worse position today in terms of emergency supply movement than we were when the storm struck.

Or consider the readiness of the Army's chemical and biological response units, most of which rest in the Reserve Component units. GAO soon will release a study sponsored by the Oversight and Government Reform Committee that will show the Army has not seen fit to enhance these units for homeland defense. As a result, Americans remain vulnerable to the chemical-biological attack many fear likely if not inevitable.

A year and a half after Hurricane Katrina, the findings and basic recommendations in the Select Committee Report on Hurricane Katrina have not been adequately addressed.

Moreover, the National Guard continues to perform valiantly in the Global War on Terrorism. The National Guard provides almost half the manpower, support and transportation



our military uses overseas, yet it has just 35 percent of the equipment it needs. The time has come to fix this.

Since 9/11, every single person in this country has benefited from the exemplary service provided by the men and women of the Guard. I urge the new leadership in this Congress, as they examine defense policies and budgets, to keep in mind the needs of these brave men and women, who for too long have been treated as second-class citizens by our military. This country cannot afford a broken state/federal response to homeland emergencies.

Madam Speaker, those National Guardsmen responsible for our homeland defense and military assistance to civilian authorities deserve the resources, planning and training they need. These reforms are long overdue, and the National Guard Empowerment Act of 2007 represents an essential step in the right direction.

HONORING RONALD PHILLIPS—3  
MILLION MILES ACCIDENT FREE

**HON. DAVID DAVIS**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ronald Phillips, a resident of the First Congressional District of Tennessee, who has recently accumulated over 3 million accident-free miles during his career as a truck driver.

In June 2004, Ronald was the first driver to receive the 2 Million Mile Safe Driving Award at Con-way.

His other accomplishments include: 25,000 Safe Driver & Worker Hours Distinguished Driver Recipient; Member Con-way Freight's Elite President's Club; Quarterly Leaders Award from Con-way; National Finalist for Ray O'Brien Award in 2003, 2004, and 2005; Tennessee Truck Driving Championships—2nd place in straight truck class in 2006; Highway Watch Member; Certified Driver Trainer and Mentor; Con-way Defensive Driver Trainer; National Eagle Scout Association Member; Regional Values Task Force Member for Con-way; Member Trucker Buddy International.

Ronald Phillips is an AWANA leader at his church and has participated in several mission trips and charitable work.

Ronald Phillips resides in Gray, Tennessee with his wife of 23 years, JoAnn. They are the proud parents of one daughter, Regina (21) who is graduating from King College this year.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my fellow members to join me in honoring Ronald Phillips, a testament to hard-work, determination and the values that have made this Nation so great.

HRANT DINK'S DEATH A LOSS FOR  
MANY

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I supported H. Res. 102 and I condemn in the

strongest possible terms the cowardly murder of journalist Hrant Dink in Istanbul on January 19. I find particularly contemptible the actions of those who seemingly chose a seventeen-year-old youth—the alleged killer—to commit this appalling crime. This despicable act should not, however, obscure the inspiring solidarity of tens of thousands of secular, Muslim, and Armenian Christian Turks who filed past Mr. Dink's bier and marched in his funeral procession. Western news media have estimated the crowds between 50,000 and 100,000. Important Turkish officials, such as Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Ali Sahin; Interior Minister Abdulkadir Aksu; the governor of Istanbul, Muammer Guler; the head of the security forces, Celalettin Cerrah; and two generals joined Arman Kirakossian, the deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia, and other Armenian officials at the funeral service.

Everyone in the world who cherishes freedom and brotherhood must take heart when signs proclaiming "We are all Armenians" are carried through the streets of Istanbul. I wish to express my condolences to the family and friends of Hrant Dink. I want also to express my profound respect for all his fellow citizens who protested his murder and mourned his death.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BUDGET AUTONOMY ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, next to H.R. 328, the bill to give the District its first full vote in the House, the bill we introduce today is the most important bill to the District of Columbia that will come before Congress this session. The District of Columbia Budget Autonomy Act that Oversight and Government Reform Ranking Member TOM DAVIS and I introduce would give the District the right to enact its local budget without annual congressional oversight. The original Senate version of the Home Rule Act provided for budget autonomy, and 32 years of unnecessary difficulties and delay occasioned by the extra layer of oversight offer ample evidence that the time is at hand for Congress to permit the city to enact its local budget and move forward immediately to operate and manage the city.

This is the most important of the bills to be introduced as part of the "Free and Equal D.C." series of bills designed to accomplish two goals: (1) to give the city control over its core functions, such as budget, legislation and criminal justice; and (2) to transfer to the District the Home Rule Act provisions that prescribe the city's structure and others that make it necessary to come to Congress for changes, as well as many other provisions that have been included in the Act over the years. Budget Autonomy is most important because the ability to enact a budget and spend its own taxpayer funds as authorized is central to a jurisdiction's ability to operate and manage a functioning government. For that reason, the budget process is essential to the right to self government. By definition, Congress will retain jurisdiction over the District of Columbia under Article I, Section 8 of the

Constitution. Since, therefore, Congress could in any case affect changes in the District's budget and laws at will, it is unnecessary to require lengthy repetition of the District's budget process here. The redundancy of the congressional appropriations process is its most striking feature, considering that few if any changes in the budget itself are made.

I am gratified that Congress itself has moved toward the position embodied in this bill. The congressional experience with the District's budget has matured, and year after year, Congress has made no changes. At the same time, there has been increasing recognition of the hardship and delays that the annual appropriations process causes. As a result, Congress has already begun freeing the city from the congressional appropriations network. Last year, Congress approved the Mid-year Budget Autonomy bill, offering the first freedom from the federal appropriations process, the most important structural change for the city since passage of the Home Rule Act 32 years ago. The District can now spend its local funds annually without congressional approval, instead of returning mid-year to become a part of the federal supplemental appropriation in order to spend funds collected since the annual appropriations bill. Moreover during the past few years, appropriators have responded to our concern about the hardships resulting from delays in enacting the D.C. appropriation. I appreciate the agreement that has allowed the local D.C. budget to be in the first continuing resolution, permitting the city to spend its local funds at the next year's level. This approach has ended the lengthy processes that began years before I was elected, whereby the D.C. budget was delayed for floor fights about local policy and laws unrelated to the budget.

I have long argued that budget autonomy would benefit the city financially and operationally without withdrawing congressional jurisdiction. Only statehood would completely eliminate congressional power over the budget, but that option is not available at this time because the Mayor and City Council turned over the costs for some state functions carried by the city to the federal government in 1997. However, permitting the local budget to go into effect on time benefits the District and the Congress alike. For the city, a timely budget would: eliminate the uncertainty of the congressional process that in turn affects the city's bond rating and adds unnecessary interest for local taxpayers to pick up; significantly increase the District's ability to make accurate revenue forecasts; and reduce the countless operational problems, large and small, that result when the city cannot proceed on budget on time. Among the many examples, one particularly comes to mind that resulted when the D.C. budget was enacted five months late. Despite significant cuts in most functions, the city had increased the budget of the D.C. Public Schools (DCPS), but DCPS was forced to spend at the prior year's levels under a Continuing Resolution without the benefit of its urgently needed increase. As a result, for example, textbooks had to be returned to publishers under contract provisions; school supplies were returned; school buses under the bus lease contract were reduced, creating longer rides for disabled children; and tuition payments for special education students went unpaid.

Leaving its local budget to the District also would bring benefits to Congress. The D.C.

budget typically has had to come to the floor repeatedly before it passes because of attachments. Members then complain about the time and effort spent on the smallest appropriation affecting no other members. No budget autonomy bill can eliminate the possibility of attachments because there are countless ways to attach riders, but our bill reduces the likelihood that they will hold the city's local budget hostage and sometimes the appropriations process itself.

Members of Congress were sent here to do the business of the nation. They have no reason to be interested in or to become knowledgeable about the many complicated provisions of the local budget of a single city. In good times and in bad, the House and Senate pass the District's budget as is. Our bill takes the Congress in the direction it is moving based on its own experience and completes the process. Three decades of congressional interference into the vital right to self government should end this year and end first with budget autonomy for the District of Columbia.

#### TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT JEDEDIAH BERMAN, BOISE, IDAHO

#### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Jedediah Berman, an Idaho native, a constituent of mine, and a proud member of the United States Military for over 15 years.

In 2004, Sergeant Berman was serving in Iraq when he was seriously wounded by an IED explosion next to his Fox vehicle. The right side of his head was badly injured. His arm was mangled, his lung had collapsed, his knee was injured, and he had shrapnel in his shoulder. He was treated first at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, then transferred to Walter Reed Medical Center here in Washington, and finally sent to Madigan Medical Center in Fort Lewis to undergo intensive treatment and rehabilitation. While his doctors were able to rebuild much of his face, they could not replace his eye or repair his hearing in his right ear. Shrapnel remained lodged in his body and his brain, his knees continued to cause him intense pain, and he had only limited use of his arm.

Despite these enormous hardships and the significant pain of his injuries, Sergeant Berman badly wanted to return to Iraq to be with his unit, the Stryker Brigade Combat Team, which had been redeployed to Iraq while Berman was recovering. Last November, he received good news from the review board that he was fit for duty and would be able to rejoin his fellow soldiers. He deployed a few days before Christmas and has rejoined the Stryker Brigade in Iraq where he continues to serve our great Nation.

Madam Speaker, Sergeant Berman is an inspiration and example to us all. He exemplifies the sort of brave and honorable military men and women that are protecting our Nation in Iraq, Afghanistan, and throughout the rest of the world. I am proud and honored to represent him and many others like him in Congress, and I am grateful for their service to our great Nation. I would also like to recognize

Sergeant Berman's family, and the many other military families throughout America, for their sacrifices and thank his mother, in particular, who brought her son's service and commitment to my attention.

As we conduct our business in Congress, I know that my colleagues and I will continue to recognize and pay tribute to the honorable men and women who are serving our country and honor the many Sergeant Bermans who willingly make such great sacrifices to protect those of us at home. To our military men and women serving at home and abroad, the American people thank you for your great service to our country.

#### CONGRATULATING IRVIN "CHOPPY" SMITH

#### HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the devoted service of Irvin "Choppy" Smith to the people of Acadia Parish. Choppy recently retired following 22 years of dedicated work as the Chief Deputy in the Acadia Parish Tax Assessor's Office.

During his distinguished service to Acadia Parish, Choppy was known as a devoted public servant who always provided a warm and welcoming environment for the many parish residents that sought the service of the Tax Assessor's Office. Choppy's vast knowledge of Acadia Parish was invaluable as he assisted countless taxpayers.

Madam Speaker, it is people like Choppy Smith that continue to inspire all of us, and I ask my colleagues to join me and the people of Acadia Parish in congratulating Choppy for his invaluable accomplishments for the State of Louisiana.

#### A TRIBUTE TO REV. JAMES MOORE, SR.

#### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Rev. James Moore, Sr. the pastor of the Second Mount Zion Baptist Church, upon the occasion of his installation as the president of Black Clergy, Inc. of Philadelphia and Vicinity.

Rev. Moore is a man of uncompromising faith and vision. His absolute devotion to church and community is recognized by his parishioners, his fellow clergy members and civic officials.

As the president of the Black Clergy I know he will take the organization to even greater heights because of his commitment to build working partnerships beyond the walls of the church to solve some of the serious problems our communities are facing.

Biblically guided by Philippians 2:5, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus," Rev. Moore, in spite of his accomplishments, walks the path of humility as he offers spiritual inspiration to those in need.

I know that all of my colleagues in the Congress join me in honoring Rev. Moore.

#### CONDEMNING ABBAS'S REMARKS AGAINST ISRAEL

#### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, at a Fatah party rally on January 11, 2007, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas reportedly said that Palestinians "have a legitimate right to direct our guns against the occupation [Israel]" and that Fatah's "fighting" stance is a "model for liberation."

I find it disheartening and deeply troubling that Abbas would sanction violence against Israel instead of calling upon his people to support peaceful compromise with Israel.

Palestinian leaders must understand that they can no longer support peace when speaking to Western audiences while advocating violence against Israel when addressing their people. Abbas' statements suggest that he is not the "moderate" Palestinian leader that many claim he is. Unless he renounces violence once and for all and takes steps to disarm terrorists, Abbas may not deserve additional U.S. aid.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW- ARK PUBLIC LIBRARY ON THEIR BLACK HISTORY MONTH EXHIBITION

#### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate the Director and Board of Trustees of The Newark Public Library, and Dr. Sibyl E. Moses, guest curator, on the occasion of the opening of the Library's Black History Month exhibition entitled "The Creativity and Imagination of African American Women Writers in New Jersey." As the representative from the 10th Congressional District, I am very proud of my long affiliation with the library and the valuable services they render to our community.

The exhibition at Newark Public Library celebrates the diversity and richness of published works created by African American women in New Jersey. The exhibition documents an important aspect of New Jersey's cultural history, and brings this information together in one place and at one time, for the people of Newark and for all residents of New Jersey. I applaud The Newark Public Library for interpreting their collections for all to see.

I also commend Sibyl E. Moses, the guest curator, for her achievements and many years of commitment and service to the people of New Jersey. She is an outstanding citizen, whose leadership is recognized nationally and internationally in the field of library and information science. For more than 20 years, she has identified, preserved, and promoted an awareness of books published by African American women in New Jersey. Her book, *African American Women Writers in New Jersey, 1836-2000: A Biographical Dictionary and Bibliographic Guide* (Rutgers University Press), upon which this exhibition is based,



won recognition from the American Association for State and Local History and by The New Jersey Center for the Book.

I am pleased to join all those in attendance at the opening of the exhibition, in wishing the Director and Board of Trustees of The Newark Public Library, and Dr. Sibyl E. Moses, continued success for the work they are doing to preserve and promote an awareness of African American history in New Jersey.

HONORING PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL  
OF FREEDOM RECIPIENT MRS.  
RUTH COLVIN

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Mrs. Ruth Colvin, a 2006 recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her work as the founder of Literacy Volunteers of America.

Literacy Volunteers of America is a national, educational, non-profit organization that trains volunteers to teach Adult Basic Literacy (ABL) and English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). In 2002 Literacy Volunteers of America merged with Laubach Literacy International to become ProLiteracy Worldwide, and now has 1200 affiliates across the United States and over 50 partners worldwide. Her work has made Syracuse, NY, the center of global literacy efforts.

Ruth Colvin is a literacy pioneer and one of our Nation's most effective ambassadors to the world on the importance of education. The founder of Literacy Volunteers of America, she has dedicated her life to helping the less fortunate gain the reading and language skills they need to succeed. Her work has inspired others to lead lives of service and devote their time and talents to combating illiteracy. The United States honors Ruth Johnson Colvin for her extraordinary efforts to provide hope and opportunity to people everywhere.

REMEMBERING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE HUNGARIAN  
UPRISING

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, this past October, Hungary celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Uprising. As President Bush said in his October 18 Presidential Proclamation, "the story of Hungarian democracy represents the triumph of liberty over tyranny." Like the President, I honor the men and women who struggled—not only in 1956 but for many years thereafter—for democracy in Hungary.

The following remarks were made by Istvan Gereben, a man who came to this country after the 1956 revolution, but who never forgot his homeland. They were delivered by Mr. Gereben in San Francisco on October 22, 2006, at the Remember Hungary 1956 Commemoration, at the California State Building.

REVOLUTION, REBIRTH, FREEDOM: HUNGARY  
1956

From the shadows of blood, iron bars, gal-  
lows and simple wooden crosses we step  
today into the sunshine of remembrance,  
hope, duty and responsibility. During the  
past sixteen years the ideas, guiding prin-  
ciples, heroes and martyrs of 1956 gained  
amends. The moral and political legacy of  
the Hungarian Revolution, however, still,  
even today, is misunderstood, misrepres-  
ented and waiting to be fully appreciated.

We remember . . . our friends, the Kids of  
Pest, the colleagues, the relatives, the fami-  
liar strangers. The brave Hungarians. Let's  
remember the dead here, thousands of miles  
away from their graves but close to their  
soul, grieving woefully, but full with hope.  
We pray for those who in their defeat became  
triumphant. "For what they have done has  
been to expose the brutal hypocrisy of Com-  
munism for all mankind"—declared Archi-  
bald McLeish in the Special Report of Life  
Magazine in 1957.

Why did it happen? The best answer can be  
found in Sandor Marai's poem: Christmas  
1956. Angel from Heaven.

The whole world is talking about the mir-  
acle.

Priests talk about bravery in their sermons.

A politician says the case is closed.

The Pope blesses the Hungarian people.

And each group, each class, everybody

Asks why it happened this way.

Why didn't they die out as expected?

Why didn't they meekly accept their fate?

Why was the sky torn apart?

Because a people said, "Enough!"

They who were born free do not understand.

They do not understand that

"Freedom is so important, so important!"

The fight waged by Hungarians in 1956 was  
inspired by a burning desire for freedom of  
the individual and the nation, by want for  
national independence, by thirst for full na-  
tional and individual sovereignty and by  
hunger for inner democracy. This Revolution  
against the Soviet occupiers was a defining  
moment in Hungarian history and in the na-  
tion's political culture. 1956 was one of the  
most powerful nails driven into the coffin of  
an evil and fraudulent tyranny.

Then and continuously since we witness  
the expression of praise, admiration of and  
support for the aims of this miracle that is  
called the Hungarian Revolution.

Let's refresh our memory with some of the  
more striking observations by our friends  
here in America and elsewhere in the World:

President John F. Kennedy: "October 23,  
1956 is a day that will forever live in the an-  
nals of free men and free nations. It was a  
day of courage, conscience and triumph. No  
other day since history began has shown  
more clearly the eternal unquenchability of  
man's desire to be free, whatever the odds  
against success, whatever the sacrifice re-  
quired." (Statement, October 23, 1960)

President Ronald Reagan: "The Hungarian  
Revolution of 1956 was a true revolution of,  
by and for the people. Its motivations were  
humanity's universal longings to live, wor-  
ship, and work in peace and to determine  
one's own destiny. The Hungarian Revolu-  
tion forever gave the lie to communism's  
claim to represent the people, and told the  
world that brave hearts still exist to chal-  
lenge injustice." (Excerpt from the Presi-  
dential Proclamation issued on October 20,  
1986.)

President George W. Bush: "On the 50th  
anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution, we  
celebrate the Hungarians who defied an em-  
pire to demand their liberty; we recognize  
the friendship between the United States and  
Hungary; and we reaffirm our shared desire  
to spread freedom to people around the

world." (Excerpt from the Presidential Pro-  
clamation issued on October 18, 2006.)

Milovan Djilas: "The changes in Poland  
mean the triumph of national Communism,  
which in a different form we have seen in  
Yugoslavia. The Hungarian uprising is some-  
thing more, a new phenomenon, perhaps no  
less meaningful than the French or Russian  
Revolutions . . . The revolution in Hungary  
means the beginning of the end of Com-  
munism." (Excerpt from "The Storm in  
Eastern Europe," "The New Leader," No. 19,  
1956.)

The New York Times: "We accuse the So-  
viet Government of murder. We accuse it of  
the foulest treachery and the basest deceit  
known to man. We accuse it of having com-  
mitted so monstrous crime against the Hun-  
garian people yesterday that its infamy can  
never be forgiven or forgotten." (In an edi-  
torial in the paper's November 1956 issue.)

I could continue with Statements made by  
Albert Camus, President Richard Nixon, Sir  
Leslie Munroe, Henry Kissinger, Leo Chern,  
Pablo Picasso, Nehru and I could read hun-  
dreds and hundreds of pages from the Con-  
gressional Record listing the praising re-  
marks of hundreds and hundreds lawmakers  
uttered in the past 50 years. All the words  
were saved for posterity, everyone can find  
and savor them.

October 23, 1956 happened when two power-  
ful ideas—tyrannical communism and the  
eternal human principles of democracy—met  
and clashed in the middle of Europe, in the  
small and defenseless Hungary. In this inher-  
ently uneven conflict blood was shed and  
lives were lost. Imre Nagy and his colleagues  
were arrested, tried and most of them along  
with countless Freedom Fighters were exe-  
cuted on June 16, 1958.

Since their death, the political and human  
challenge has been to find the rationale for  
their supreme sacrifice. This rationale is the  
indestructible dignity of every human being.  
By refusing to beg for his life, Imre Nagy re-  
pudiated his personal past for a more hopeful  
future of Hungary and the world at large.

The significance of his and countless other  
Hungarians' sacrifice is etched onto the po-  
litical map of the 21st century. The invented  
hope of the Hungarian Revolution is taking  
shape in the recent developments throughout  
the world. That is the real miracle of the  
events of 1956 and the subsequent human sac-  
rifices of Imre Nagy and his fellow Freedom  
Fighters.

The Revolution was brutally and unavoid-  
ably defeated.

Why was the fate of the Revolution pre-  
determined? Why did it happen so that when  
we in the last days of October and the early  
days of November in 1956 enthusiastically  
and full with hope sensing victory strolled  
the streets of Budapest and the cities and  
villages of Hungary not suspecting that our  
fate, independently from us, already has  
been determined. The deadly sentence was  
delivered by the powers of the world? And if  
it is so why was the verdict such as it was?

Even after 50 years there is still no answer.

The questions are not new. The lack of an-  
swer frustrated many historians, political  
scientists but none had the determination,  
the skill, the objectivity and patience to pro-  
vide an authentic answer.

Robert Murphy, who, in the absence of Sec-  
retary of State John Foster Dulles from  
Washington, attended to the day to day busi-  
ness of the State Department during the  
Hungarian Revolution, summarized his frus-  
tration caused by not being able to find a  
satisfactory answer to Hungary's demands in  
his autobiography, *Diplomat Among War-  
riors*, published in 1964 this way:

"In retrospect, world acceptance of the  
Russian aggression in Hungary is still in-  
credible. For sheer perfidy and relentless

suppression of a courageous people longing for their liberty, Hungary will always remain a classic symbol. Perhaps history will demonstrate that the free world could have intervened to give the Hungarians the liberty they sought, but none of us in the State Department had the skill or the imagination to devise a way."

This answer seems to be the most honest one.

Hungarians have fallen back in the Soviet yoke. But the nation persevered.

There are times when remembrance is the bravest action—declared Gyula Illyes, the eminent Hungarian poet in the middle of the twentieth century. Today such times are present in Hungary. The time for bravery to remain faithful to the moral and political maxims of the Revolution. Bravery witnessed not against the tanks, soldiers and henchmen of the occupying empire, bravery not contesting a strange, inhuman ideology, but courage to face insensitivity, to confront and solve the problems of humdrum everyday life, the bravery necessary to assume the responsibility and sacrifice of building a truly modern country, which is democratic, committed to observe the rule of law and governed by the constitution. At the present, this kind of bravery does not uniformly characterize all Hungarians.

Hungary was redeemed 35 years after the defeated Revolution. During that 35 years her plight to fulfill the demands of 1956 gained respect and support in the West. The courage, the intelligence, the determination and the skill of the Hungarian Democratic Opposition to engage a first bloodthirsty, later, sophisticated dictatorship resulted in recognition of the opposition's leaders as authoritative spokesmen for the fulfillment of the desires of the Hungarian people. They were inspired by the spirit of the Revolution and adopted its maxims.

In the United States, Presidents and ordinary citizens lined up in support behind the Democratic Opposition. The United States, by publicly expressing support in words and in action provided protection for individuals and the whole community of the dissidents.

The U.S. Government published English translations of selected samizdat literature produced by opposition activists. Many volumes, each with hundreds of pages of these, were printed and distributed in the '70s and the '80s. A collection of these is deposited in the National Szechenyi Library in Budapest.

Information provided by the dissidents was used by the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation U.S.A. and the Coordinating Committee of Hungarian Organizations in North America in their countless testimonies before Congress, the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation, and in numerous briefings presented in the White House and in the State and Defense Departments.

A longstanding issue between the Hungarian Communist Government and the Opposition, Hungarians abroad and more significantly the United States Government was the unwillingness of the Communist Government to identify the secret location of the graves in which the executed Freedom Fighters were buried. A campaign covering several decades by U.S. Presidents, Congressman, the Commission on Security and Cooperation, hundreds of leading public figures and civic organizations culminated in a letter sent on June 20, 1988, by Congressman Frank Horton, along with 43 other Representatives urging Prime Minister Karoly Grosz of Hungary to comply with the many requests filed with the Hungarian Government in the past and allow the family members of the executed to have access to the body of their relatives. Responding in letter dated July 18, 1988 the Prime Minister wrote:

"My Government has the intention to settle this problem in a humane spirit in the

near future, enabling the families to rebury the dead and to pay their tribute at the graves."

The public ceremony of the reburial took place on June 16, 1989 in the presence of 200,000 grieving Hungarians. With this act the road opened to free parliamentary and local elections in 1990 and the formation of a free Government.

The demands of the Hungarian people were fulfilled. The building of a constitutional parliamentary democracy is under way.

In these days worrisome news comes from Hungary indicating that the road is not smooth. The diamond of twentieth century Hungarian history that was formed in 1956 under the stresses of the circumstances and in the fire burning in every Hungarian's heart is being tested today in Hungary. False prophets, eager mouths, zealous hands driven by dark emotions attempt to pulverize this gem into powder of coal and then burn it into ashes and dross. They will not succeed. History and we will not let them to succeed.

On this 50th Anniversary when we remember and pay tribute to the ideals and heroes of 1956, we also affirm our deeply felt conviction that lasting freedom and democracy will not take hold in Hungary unless the precepts of the Revolution regarding resolute unity, sacrifice, human and political wisdom are practically and fully implemented. We call upon those who are responsible for Hungary's welfare to heed to the principles for which so many died in 1956 and to whose memory we pay tribute today.

We pray that it will be so! Lord Hear our prayer . . . God bless Hungary . . . Isten alld meg a magyart!

#### HONORING THE MOODY MEN'S COLLEGIATE CHOIR

#### HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of a very special organization.

More than 1000 young men have sung in the Moody Men's Collegiate Choir since it's founding in 1957 as the Moody Men's Glee Club under the vision of founding conductor, Robert Carbaugh; a distinguished former professor of the Sacred Music Department of Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. Like all male choruses or glee clubs, the choir's members have enjoyed experiences of singing, touring, camaraderie and a wealth of tradition.

Distinctive to this organization is a significant focus on the praise of God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—and the proclamation of God's Word through music. The mission of singing about their faith has taken this outstanding choral ensemble and its conductors over the years to all 50 of our United States, to Canada and to numerous destinations overseas, most recently to Australia and New Zealand in 2005. We salute former conductors Mr. Robert Carbaugh, Dr. Kerchal Armstrong, Mr. John Wilson, Mr. Vann Trapp, the late Mr. Robert Iler, Dr. Terry Strandt, and Dr. Timothy Newton, current conductor Dr. H.E. Singley III and all the members of the Moody Men's Collegiate Choir past and present for 50 years of music-making in service to their Lord, Moody Bible Institute and the Christian church around the world.

Madam Speaker, we also honor them for their commitment to be men of character and

faith. Their challenge can be heard in the words of a piece of music sung by these choirs over the years: "God wants a man honest and true and brave, a man who hates the wrong and loves the right, a man who scorns all compromise with sin, who for the truth courageously will fight. God wants a man in lowly walk or high, who to the world by daily life will prove that Christ abides within the yielded heart, fitting that heart for service and for love. God wants a man who dares to tell the truth, who in the market place will stand four-square, whose word men trust, a man who never stoops to hurt his fellowman or act unfair. God wants a man of action and of faith whose life is something more than can't and talk, who lives each day as though it were his last and proves his faith by a consistent life. God wants a man of action and of faith." We honor the Moody Men's Choir for their 50 years of service and extend our best wishes for a bright future of expanded ministry.

#### FLOWERS FOODS NAMED "BEST MANAGED" BY FORBES MAGAZINE

#### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a company that has done much for the 2nd Congressional District of Georgia, Flowers Foods, recently named by Forbes magazine as one of the best managed companies in America.

To create the list, Forbes looked at more than 1,000 publicly traded companies with at least \$1 billion in revenue, and chose 400 based on metrics, earnings forecasts, corporate governance ratings, and other public company information. From that list, Forbes editors picked one best-managed company from each of the 26 industries represented—and Flowers Foods was among the "best of the best." Forbes selected these companies not just for their financial performance, but also for leadership, innovation, and execution.

Flowers Foods is a leading producer and marketer of packaged bakery goods in the United States. The company operates 36 highly efficient bakeries that produce breads, buns, rolls, snack cakes and pastries which are distributed to foodservice and retail customers in the Southeastern, Southwestern, and Mid-Atlantic States, and frozen to national foodservice and retail customers.

Founded in Thomasville, GA in 1919 by brothers William Howard and Joseph Hampton Flowers, Flowers Foods produces many well-known brands of baked goods including Nature's Own, Sunbeam, ButterKrust, Mi Casa and Bluebird.

In Thomasville alone, which is in my district, Flowers employs 550 people at one bakery. Statewide, Flowers employs 2,110 people at seven bakeries.

Flowers Foods is a publicly traded company on the New York Stock Exchange, ticker symbol FLO.

Again, please join me in congratulating Flowers Foods on their recent award. It is an excellent company and an integral part of the business community of the 2nd Congressional District of Georgia.

TROOPS TO TEACHERS  
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2007

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, my colleague, Mr. PETRI, and I are reintroducing the Troops to Teachers Improvement Act. I am proud to bring this bipartisan effort before the House in the newly-elected 110th Congress. I first learned about the Troops to Teachers program at a California Purple Heart Veterans Day event in my district. Two different veterans who are participating in Troops to Teachers spoke with me about how the program offered them the chance to continue to contribute to our country. After serving their country in the Armed Forces, they were now able to teach in high-need school districts.

With a slogan like, "Proud to Serve Again," Troops to Teachers is a unique program that provides stipends to military retirees to obtain the necessary certification for a second career in teaching. Equally important, the program places much-needed math, science and special education teachers in the classroom. In fact, over 55 percent of Troops to Teachers participants teach in these critical areas. Right now, our country is seeing 7 percent of its teaching force leave every year, and we have a need for highly-qualified science and math teachers. Additionally, veterans who participate in the Troops to Teachers program fill another void for male and ethnic minority teachers. Qualities learned in the military including: discipline, problem solving and leadership skills make veterans ideal role models for our students. Simply put, the Troops to Teachers program has never been more important.

Since first learning about the Troops to Teachers program, I have had the pleasure of hearing many stories of how participants' lives have changed after transitioning from the military to the classroom. One of my constituents has such a story. After 21 years in the Air Force, Kelly Sullivan retired from the military, with two young children to care for. Using a \$3,000 award from Troops to Teachers, she was able to pay for graduate school classes, as well as nine required teaching certification exams. Needless to say, the award was a financial relief for her, especially as she set out to begin her second career.

Kelly is now teaching English at Hiram Johnson High School in Sacramento. She has found that her two decades in the Air Force gave her the maturity, wisdom and life experiences that enable her to motivate and encourage her students to succeed in school. These skills are especially important as gangs and increased violence are all too prevalent in her school's neighborhood. One thing is for sure, when her students need help Kelly is there—thanks to Troops to Teachers.

Kelly is a prime example of the goal of the Troops to Teachers program, which was authorized in 1993 to help members of the military obtain teaching credentials to teach in large districts with low-income schools. A variety of retired, separated, active duty and transitioning military members and veterans—including disabled veterans—are eligible to participate. Those who are interested are required to have a bachelor's or advanced degree. If applying for a vocational or technical

teaching position, candidates are required to have at least 6 years of experience in the field. The program has successfully recruited and placed almost 10,000 veterans in school districts since it was created. In my home state of California, 571 veterans are currently participating in the program.

Unfortunately, a small change under the No Child Left Behind Act, NCLB, of 2001 greatly affected where veterans could fulfill their teaching obligation. In some areas of the country, retiring military and veterans interested in the program now have to drive 50 to 100 miles to find an eligible school. This has resulted in a 20–30 percent drop-off in veteran participation, which has seriously hindered this productive and necessary program.

The bill that my esteemed colleague Mr. PETRI and I are reintroducing today would fix this error. It would allow participants to fulfill their teaching obligation at any school considered high-need under NCLB, meaning that the school receives Title I funding. Prior to the NCLB change, participants were able to fulfill their teaching obligation in any school within my district in Sacramento, as they all receive Title I funding. However, under the more restrictive rule, only 211 of the 350 schools in my district are eligible. Currently, 61 percent of the high schools in my district are not eligible.

I continue to believe in this program and want to see disabled and retiring military offered a second chance at serving our country. Just last week, the Troops to Teachers program had a conference in Washington, DC. Once again, we heard stories of participants' dedication to serving our country and the sense of fulfillment they receive from educating future generations. Additionally, the program brings important math, science, and foreign language expertise to our classroom and fills a critical need among our educators. These characteristics make Troops to Teachers an excellent source of highly-qualified educators.

Mr. PETRI and I are committed to fulfilling the intent of this program, and we introduce this bill so that more veterans, like my constituent Kelly, will continue to be able to serve our country—whether in the military or in the classroom. I look forward to swiftly passing this bipartisan bill in the 110th Congress and urge my colleagues to continue to work to support the Troops to Teachers program.

DISDAIN OF AIR PASSENGER  
DELAYS

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, recently, I received an offer from American Express entitled, Travel Delay Protection. That's right for \$9.95 per person per trip you can get an insurance plan to safeguard against flight delays and their associated hassles and costs. Has American aviation really been brought to this level Madam Speaker? Like Lloyds of London of old responding to sinking ships, American Express simply sees a modern opportunity in a far too sinking industry.

We have been told that the recent debacle in Texas in which passengers were held hostage for almost a day, was an anomaly. We

are told that to legislatively address the basic rights of air passengers is an overreaction.

Well, Madam Speaker, if American Express, no dummy of a company, sees profit in the misfortunes of America's airline industry, I think Congress at least should listen to the collective voice of countless aggrieved passengers. Especially, Congress should hear passengers who suffer regularly from flight delays and disruptions, but because they are not caught up in the major anomaly of the season, they don't get to air their disdain on the national news. They just suffer.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND  
RETIREMENT OF MARGARET  
BLACKSHERE, PRESIDENT OF  
THE ILLINOIS AFL/CIO

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the career and retirement of Margaret Blackshere, President of the Illinois AFL/CIO.

Margaret Blackshere, who has been an effective leader and advocate at all levels of organized labor, began her career as a kindergarten teacher in Madison, Illinois in the 1960's. Her first involvement in organized labor began with the efforts of her district's teachers to secure both just compensation and more of a voice in the decisions that directly influenced the educational processes in their district.

From that early involvement, Ms. Blackshere would become president of her local union and then Statewide Vice President of the Illinois Federation of Teachers. She served as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Illinois AFL/CIO before winning election as the first woman President of that organization in 2000, the position from which she is now retiring.

As president of the Illinois AFL/CIO, with 1,500 local affiliates and over 1 million members, Margaret Blackshere has had significant influence in the direction of organized labor, not only at the state and national level, but internationally as well. As president, Ms. Blackshere has been responsible for maintaining unity within the Illinois AFL/CIO even though there have been signs of discord in other locations during recent years.

In addition to her tireless work for her labor organizations, Ms. Blackshere has been involved in a number of civic and political organizations as well. These organizations include the Alliance for Retired Americans Labor-Management Cooperation Council, United Way of Illinois, Voices for Illinois Children, Workers Compensation Advisory Board, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago. She has also been a delegate to the Democratic National Convention and has been a member of the Democratic National Committee.

While Ms. Blackshere is retiring from her position as President of the Illinois AFL/CIO, she has indicated that she will continue to consult, assist and volunteer her time for the causes that have been important to her. For those in organized labor and for everyone who appreciates the positive impact that the labor movement has had in our overall quality of

life, Margaret Blackshere has been a true champion.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Margaret Blackshere for her years of dedicated service to the working men and women in Illinois and our nation and to wish her the very best in the future.

#### HONORING THE USA TAP DANCE TEAM ON THEIR SUCCESS AT THE WORLD TAP DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with the greatest pride that I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations and very best wishes to the USA Tap Dance Team, based out of the Greater New Haven area, as they celebrate their tremendous success at the 2007 World Tap Dance Championships recently held in Reisa, Germany. In all, 51 dancers ranging in age from 10 to 20 years old made the trip and returned with a total of 11 medals! Our communities certainly have cause for celebration with the wonderful accomplishments of these young people.

Participating in three divisions, the USA Tap Dance Team has worked very hard over the last several months to be able to compete in this year's competitions. Coming together from across Connecticut and even New York, the dancers practiced for countless hours for solo, duo, small group, and formation events. The commitment these young people have demonstrated is truly inspiring. They have worked so hard to master the required high-level skills and the necessary symmetry of their movements.

I had the distinct honor of joining them for a very special evening as they prepared to leave for Germany and, as a former tap dancer myself, I was truly impressed with the level of dedication, passion, and talent of the team. It was this combination of drive and spirit that led to the team to come home with three gold medals, seven silver medals, one bronze medal, and several other finishing places—placing and medaling in each of three divisions—a remarkable showing!

I am also pleased to recognize the incomparable Gloria Jean Cuming for her outstanding leadership and instruction as well as the six choreographers who worked with the dancers and traveled to Germany with them. Their work with individuals and groups helped to secure this outstanding triumph. In addition, I would also extend a note of thanks and appreciation to the parents and volunteers whose support has enabled the dancers to practice and travel for their competitions. Without their efforts, the success of the USA Tap Dance Team would not be possible.

I am thrilled to stand today to join our local communities in extending my sincere congratulations to the USA Tap Dance Team on their great success at the 2007 World Tap Dance Championships. You have all made us proud!

#### A TRIBUTE TO MR. CARLOS LEZAMA—PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF THE WEST INDIAN AMERICAN DAY CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Carlos Lezama, West Indian community leader who left this world at the age of 83 years and to enter into the RECORD an article in the Daily News by Bill Hutchinson entitled "West Indian Carnival Founder Carlos Lezama Dies at 83."

Carlos Lezama was born in Trinidad and spent his formative years on the island. He played the Cello and was nicknamed "Celloman" a name and position he enjoyed while working on a passenger ship before migrating to the USA in the early fifties. He joined the New York Metropolitan Transit Authority, in the mid-sixties. At NYTA he moved up steadily for the next twenty years until he became a Machinist. In 1989, he retired from that Agency.

Lezama long ago recognized the cultural significance of Carnival, since he played Mas' in Trinidad. When he came to New York he naturally gravitated towards the Carnival which took place in Harlem. In the mid-nineteen sixties, he directed his efforts to firmly establish Carnival in Brooklyn with his friend Rufus Goring, who brought the celebration to Brooklyn.

Under the stewardship of Lezama, the Brooklyn Caribbean Carnival grew from a five-block affair to the status of the largest outdoor parade in the United States. It attracts in excess of three million people on Eastern Parkway every year on the first Monday in September. Over the years the West Indian American Day Carnival Association has grown to a full-fledged community service organization and provides scholarships and a host of annual calendar events of cultural and educational events.

Lezama has been officially recognized and honored by scores of organizations, four New York State Governors (Govs. Rockefeller, Carey, Cuomo, and Pataki), and numerous awards from Mayors John Lindsay, Abe Beame, Ed Koch, David Dinkins and Rudy Giuliani for his efforts in promoting the rich culture of Caribbean people and thus enriching the cultural life of New York City. In 2001, the Carnival route—Eastern Parkway was renamed Carlos Lezama Parkway.

Even though Carlos Lezama passed away on January 22, 2007, his contributions to the diversity of the United States of America will continue to resonate through the Annual Brooklyn Carnival held each Labor Day Monday.

[From the New York Daily News]

WEST INDIAN CARNIVAL FOUNDER CARLOS LEZAMA DIES AT 83

(By Bill Hutchinson)

Carlos Lezama, who transformed the West Indian American Day Carnival from a five-block affair into one of the city's biggest events, died yesterday. He was 83.

Lezama, a retired machinist for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, died at Kings County Hospital after a brief illness.

"Throughout our lives, my siblings, as well as my mother, have been privileged to share

my father with the millions who are part of the carnival family," said Lezama's daughter, Yolanda Lezama-Clark.

"I am grateful that he has left an impressive legacy of which we all as Caribbean people can be proud," added Lezama-Clark, president of the West Indian American Day Carnival Association.

Born in Trinidad, Lezama grew up playing the steel pan and the cello, garnering the nickname "Celloman" while working on a cruise ship.

When he immigrated to America, he gravitated to the annual carnival event in Harlem. In the mid-1960s, he and a friend, Rufus Goring, brought the celebration to Brooklyn, and in 1967 he was elected the first president of the carnival association.

"He was a major force with respect to the West Indian Day parade, which now has millions of people," former Mayor Ed Koch said of Lezama yesterday. "It's really not a parade. It's a mass of people, having a great time together."

Former Mayor David Dinkins said it was Lezama's "vision and foresight" that turned the parade into a city cultural icon.

"I thought he was terrific," Dinkins said. "He had a drive, he was determined that the parade was going to go off and he didn't particularly care about the politics of it. I thought he did a great job."

Besides his daughter, Lezama is survived by his son, Kenwyn; four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

#### WATER QUALITY FINANCING ACT OF 2007

#### HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, in 1972, the passage of the Clean Water Act secured the nation's commitment to rescuing our waters and expelling the pollutants that were killing our water supply and the wildlife that depended on it. Today, Mr. YOUNG, former Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, Congresswoman ELLEN TAUSCHER, and I introduce bipartisan legislation that definitively renews our commitment to these waters and authorizes increased funding for wastewater infrastructure through a reauthorization of the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund program.

The Water Quality Financing Act of 2007 authorizes \$20 billion in Federal grants over five years to capitalize Clean Water State Revolving Funds. These funds provide low interest loans to communities for wastewater infrastructure. This bill also provides additional subsidies, including principal forgiveness and negative interest loans for communities that meet a state's affordability criteria, for individual ratepayers that will experience significant hardship from potential rate increases, and for the construction and implementation of innovative or alternative processes, materials, or technologies to meet the nation's wastewater treatment needs. It encourages long-term asset management planning and financing that will ensure sustainable systems and the potential to reduce overall capital and operation and maintenance costs and it promotes communities to consider alternative and innovative processes, materials, and technologies (including "green infrastructure") that

provide greater environmental benefits, or the same benefits using less energy or at a reduced cost. Water quality benefits are the primary criterion for determining which projects receive funding, and encourages watershed approaches to solving water quality problems, as well as traditional infrastructure.

Since 1972, the federal government has provided more than \$82 billion for wastewater infrastructure and other assistance. Overall investment in the nation's infrastructure—including that from federal, state, and local sources—has been over \$250 billion.

Today, twice as many waters are considered fishable and swimmable as they were before the Clean Water Act was passed into law. Our infrastructure systems include 16,000 publicly owned wastewater treatment plants, 100,000 major pumping stations, 600,000 miles of sanitary sewers, and 200,000 miles of storm sewers. Toxic chemicals and other pollutants have been greatly reduced. Wildlife has returned in abundance to waters that were once declared "dead". One in ten tourists is destined for the beach—providing our travel and vacation industries with customers and business.

Many of these success stories have occurred, in part, because of a strong commitment to fund necessary projects to improve water quality. Title VI of the Clean Water Act provides for the establishment and capitalization of Clean Water State Revolving Loan Funds ("Clean Water SRFs") to aid in funding the construction of wastewater treatment works and other wastewater infrastructure around the country. Since 1987, individual states and territories have maintained Clean Water SRFs to help provide for low-cost financing for approved water quality infrastructure projects.

These advances aside, one-third of our nation's waters are still in deplorable condition. Although federal funding of Clean Water SRFs had been steady at a level of \$1.35 billion annually, in recent years, funding for the program has been cut dramatically. From just fiscal year 2006 to fiscal year 2007, the administration's budget request for Clean Water SRFs decreased \$199.2 million, dropping from \$886.7 million to \$687.5 million.

These declines come at a time when funding is vital for progress. Our population is booming, putting more pressure on already over-burdened systems. In addition, much of the wastewater infrastructure in this country is rapidly approaching or has already exceeded its projected useful life. These antiquated systems need maintenance and rebuilding to protect our physical, economic, and natural environments.

Without increased investment in wastewater infrastructure, in less than a generation, the U.S. could lose much of the gains it made thus far in improving water quality as a result of the 1972 Clean Water Act.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill, to continue funding our infrastructure, to make repairs where maintenance is needed, and to renew our commitment to our nation's waters.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF OFFICER DAN BESSANT OF THE OCEANSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

### HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life and service of Oceanside Police Officer Dan Bessant, who was killed in the line of duty on December 20, 2006.

A 3-year police department veteran, Officer Bessant was fatally shot while responding to a fellow officer's call for assistance on a routine traffic stop in Oceanside, California. It is intolerable that such a fine young man should be taken from those he loved in the prime of his life to a senseless act of youth violence.

Just as he did on that fateful day, Officer Bessant spent his life of 25 years committed to serving the public—first as police cadet, then as a Police Community Safety Assistant, and finally as an Oceanside Police Officer. Each day of Officer Bessant's service made Oceanside a safer place.

Officer Bessant will be remembered as a dedicated officer, passionate for his work and eager to improve the community where he was born and raised. His family and friends will remember him as a proud, new father and devoted husband. By all, he will be recalled for his unwavering honor and courage.

On this day, Congress should remember Officer Bessant's passion for law enforcement and his endless devotion to Oceanside. May God bring peace to his wife Katelyn, 2 month-old son Wyatt, and his family, friends and colleagues.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF EMMA FAUST TILLMAN

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay great honor to Mrs. Emma Faust Tillman, who passed away on January 28, 2007. Mrs. Tillman, a longtime resident of the Hartford area, was the oldest known living person prior to her death at 114 years of age. Though her reign lasted only 4 days, the legacy of her life can provide inspiration to us all.

Born November 22, 1892 in Gibsonville, North Carolina, Mrs. Tillman was one of 23 siblings. Her parents, former slaves, moved Mrs. Tillman and her family to Glastonbury, Connecticut in 1900. After graduating high school in 1909 as the only black student in her class, Mrs. Tillman went on to work as a cook, maid, and party caterer, eventually owning her own catering service and baking for many of Hartford's notable residents, including Hartford Hospital's Dr. Thomas Hepburn, father of legendary actress Katharine Hepburn. She wed Arthur Tillman in 1914 and they had 2 daughters before his death in 1939.

Deeply religious from a young age, Mrs. Tillman became involved with her church memberships. After being christened at age 13, she began singing in her church choir, an ac-

tivity in which she was engaged in for over 80 years. A longtime member of the A.M.E. Zion Church in Hartford, she was considered the "mother of the church" by Rev. Terry L. Jones, not only for her ripe age, but also for her fervent faith. When commenting on the longevity of her life, Mrs. Tillman would always credit "God's will."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life of Emma Faust Tillman. In her 114 years, she deeply touched and inspired those who knew her, and those who have heard her tremendous story. My thoughts and prayers are with her friends and family, in particular, her surviving daughter Marjorie. The Hartford community is thankful for the honor of knowing Emma Faust Tillman.

### LANE EVANS POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

### HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2007*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 521 as a tribute to Congressman Lane Evans, my friend and former colleague. Congressman Evans faithfully and dutifully represented the people of the 17th District of Illinois. Today, we honor former Congressman Evans by naming the Post Office located at 2633 11th Street in Rock Island, Illinois, after him. I thank my fellow Illinoisan and Mr. Evans' successor, Congressman PHIL HARE, for introducing this legislation to honor our friend and former member of this body.

Lane Evans grew up in Rock Island, Illinois. The son of a firefighter, he joined the Marine Corps right out of high school and served our country in Vietnam from 1969 to 1971. After his tour of duty, Congressman Evans went to college and then to Georgetown University Law Center to earn his J.D.

Lane Evans was first elected to Congress in 1982 and served for eleven terms. Throughout his tenure in Congress, Evans was a tireless champion for veterans across the nation. He served on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee from 1983 through till his final term and was the ranking member of that committee for the last 10 years.

During his time in Washington, Lane Evans worked tirelessly to secure many benefits for America's servicemen and women. He campaigned to increase assistance to homeless veterans, to fund research on complex combat-related injuries, to expand VA home loans, to increase G.I. worker training benefits, and was a staunch advocate of increasing veterans' health benefits. Specifically, he led efforts to help combat veterans cope with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Although Lane Evans worked diligently for our men and women in uniform, he was also a leading advocate for many other causes. Mr. Evans fought hard to ban landmines, which kill and maim thousands every year, to protect American workers from cheaper foreign competition, to have fair trade policies with other nations, to protect America's farmers and our environment.

Mr. Speaker, last year, Congressman Evans chose not to run for reelection to the 110th

Congress. For 24 years, Congressman Evans was a dedicated public servant to the 17th District of Illinois and to the country as a whole. I ask my colleagues to join me in this small gesture to honor our former colleague by naming a Rock Island Post Office after him. I wish my friend and former colleague the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

REV. ROBERT F. DRINAN, SCHOLAR, HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST, AND FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American and a former member of this House. The Rev. Robert Drinan, was a Jesuit Catholic priest, lawyer, human rights activist, and a former Member of Congress from Massachusetts. He was also a law professor at Georgetown University Law Center for the last 26 years of his life. Father Drinan, who died Sunday, January 28, 2007, was one of the most admired members of this body and was beloved by all who knew him. He will be missed immensely. All of us mourn his loss and extend our condolences to his family and loved ones.

Father Robert Frederick Drinan, S.J. was born November 15, 1920 in Boston, Massachusetts and grew up in Hyde Park, Massachusetts. He graduated from Hyde Park High School in 1938. He received a B.A. and an M.A. from Boston College in 1942 and joined the Jesuit Order the same year; he was ordained as a Catholic priest in 1953. He earned his LL.B. and LL.M degrees from Georgetown University Law Center in 1950. He received his doctorate in theology from Gregorian University in Rome in 1954. Over the course of his life he would be the recipient of 21 honorary degrees. He studied in Florence for 2 years before returning to Boston, where he was admitted to the bar in 1956.

Father Drinan was appointed Dean of the Boston College Law School in 1956 and served until 1970, during which time he also taught family law and church-state relations. As dean he called for the desegregation of Boston public schools during the 1960s and challenged his students to become involved in civil rights issues. During this period, he was also a visiting professor at other schools including the University of Texas. He also served the public interest by his membership on several Massachusetts state commissions created to improve the administration of justice.

In 1970, Father Drinan, who strongly opposed the Vietnam War, was elected to Congress defeating Congressman Philip J. Philbin, the Chair of the Armed Services Committee in the Democratic primary. Father Drinan went on to win re-election to the U.S. House of Representatives four times, serving from 1971 until 1981. He was the first Roman Catholic priest to serve as a voting member of Congress.

In the House, Father Drinan served on several committees but is perhaps best known for his service on the Judiciary Committee, where

he chaired the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice. He was the first member of Congress to introduce a resolution in Congress calling for the impeachment of President Nixon. Father Drinan believed strong and with considerable justification that it was illegal for President Nixon to widen the Vietnam War by the secret of bombing Cambodia.

Father Drinan was an early and staunch supporter of a woman's right to choose. This stance took considerable political courage for a Roman Catholic politician from Boston in the early 1970s. His stand on abortion rights drew considerable criticism and significant opposition from Church leaders, who were also opposed to the idea of a priest holding political office.

Father Drinan reconciled his political position with official Church doctrine by stating that while he was personally opposed to abortion, its legality was a separate issue from its morality. This distinction did not satisfy his critics, notably Pope John Paul II, who in 1980, decreed that all priests everywhere withdraw from electoral politics. Though framed as a general order, to many it seemed that Father Drinan was the principal target. But true to his ordination vows, Father Drinan obeyed and did not seek reelection. He said: "It is just unthinkable, [the idea of renouncing the priesthood to stay in office]. I am proud and honored to be a priest and a Jesuit. As a person of faith I must believe that there is work for me to do which somehow will be more important than the work I am required to leave." But he continued to be a vocal supporter of a woman's right to choose after leaving the Congress, much to the chagrin of the Church, and strongly supported President Clinton's veto of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act in 1996.

Father Drinan joined the faculty of the Georgetown University Law Center in 1981 and served for the next 26 years. He taught legal ethics and international human rights, and traveled to 16 countries, including as Chile, the Philippines, El Salvador, and Vietnam on human rights missions. He was a regular contributor to law reviews and journals, and authored several books, including *The Mobilization of Shame: A World View of Human Rights*, published by Yale University Press in 2001.

Father Drinan served as a member of the American Bar Association House of Delegates until his death and was chair of the ABA Section on Individual Rights and Responsibilities. He served on the Board of Directors of the International League for Human Rights, the Lawyer's Committee for International Human Rights, the Council for a Livable World Educational Fund, the International Labor Rights Fund, Americans for Democratic Action, and the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

In 2004, the American Bar Association called Father Drinan "the stuff of which legends are made" when awarding him its 2004 ABA Medal, an honor shared by such legal luminaries as Thurgood Marshall and Sandra Day O'Connor. Just last summer Father Drinan was presented the 2006 Congressional Distinguished Service Award by now-House Speaker NANCY PELOSI, which is given to former Members of the House of Representatives who have performed their duties "with such extraordinary distinction and selfless dedication as to merit special recognition."

Madam Speaker, a great man has finished his course, has run the great race, and has

gone on to claim his great reward. We are deeply saddened by the loss of this tireless champion for human rights and social justice. But his good works will be with us for eternity. For that we can all be grateful.

### INTRODUCTION OF PINEDALE ASSEMBLY CENTER RESOLUTION

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a Resolution recognizing the Pinedale Assembly Center site as having historical significance to our Nation on behalf of myself, Congressman RADANOVICH, Congressman CARDOZA, Congressman NUNES, and Congressman HONDA.

As we approach the 65th Anniversary of Executive Order 9066, we are reminded of what was the beginning of a dark chapter in United States history. On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the order authorizing the forced internment of Japanese Americans. Over the following three years, the United States Government forced 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry into internment camps, the single largest relocation of Americans in our Nation's history.

This internment placed tremendous hardship on innocent Americans and in many cases resulted in the loss of their jobs, homes, businesses and dignity. Furthermore, the internment was a violation of their fundamental Constitutional rights.

Executive Order 9066 included provisions which ordered Japanese Americans to report to assembly centers where they would be held until they were moved to permanent War Relocation centers. During World War II, 4,823 individuals reported to the Pinedale Assembly Center in Fresno, California.

On November 28, 2006, the Fresno City Council unanimously approved Resolution 2006-532 designating a portion of the Pinedale Assembly Center site known as "Remembrance Plaza" to the Local Register of Historic Resources.

The Pinedale Assembly Center Memorial Project Committee is currently charged with the task of establishing a memorial that recognizes the historic tragedy that took place at that site.

February 19, 2007, known as "The Day of Remembrance", marks the 65th anniversary of the Executive Order 9066, making it an appropriate day for the groundbreaking ceremony of the Pinedale Memorial Center.

Today over 5,000 Japanese Americans, many former World War II internees and their families, live in Fresno County, California. The Pinedale Memorial would serve to honor these and thousands of other Japanese Americans who suffered during this period. In addition, this memorial would serve as a lesson so future generations will not repeat the mistakes of the past.

The Pinedale Assembly Center Memorial sends the message that we are committed to healing historical wounds and replacing prejudice and fear with the values of equality and justice.